

ST. CRONAN'S CHURCH

PARTNERSHIP OF BRACKENSTOWN, SWORDS, RIVER VALLEY & DONABATE PARISHES

5TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

4TH FEBRUARY 2024

YEAR B

February has arrived, and Spring is in the air. There is a great lift in seeing the emergence of daffodils, snowdrops and crocuses, as well as brighter mornings and stretch in the evenings. This weekend, we can celebrate having an extra holiday in honour of St. Brigid, Mary of the Gael. I came across the following reflection this week, which I think offers us encouragement.

'God always entices us through love. Most of us were taught that God would love us if and when we changed. In fact, God loves you so that you can change. What empowers change, what makes you desirous of change, is the experience of love and acceptance itself. But we've been given an inferior message—that God loves you when you change (moralism). It puts it all back on you, which is the opposite of being saved. Moralism leads you back to navel-gazing, and you can never succeed at that level. You are never holy enough, pure enough, or loving enough. Whereas, when you fall into God's mercy, when you fall into God's great generosity, you find, seemingly from nowhere, this capacity to change. No one is more surprised than you are. You know it is a total gift.'

—from the book **Yes, And... Daily Meditations** by Richard Rohr



Fr. Richard

In celebration of the sacrament of marriage, and to mark **International Marriage Week**, we invite couples who celebrated their wedding in the past year, are preparing for marriage in the coming year or have recently become engaged, to join us at the **11.00am Mass next Sunday 11th February**, (Sunday nearest St. Valentine's Day). We also welcome couples who may be celebrating a significant wedding anniversary.

A **blessing of wedding or engagement rings** will take place during the Mass, and the hospitality committee will provide refreshments in the parish centre after Mass. All are welcome!



The **ANNUAL COLLECTION** for **ACCORD Dublin**, the Diocesan Agency for Marriage and the Family, will be made at all Masses on the weekend of **17&18 February 2024**. **ACCORD Dublin offers:**

- ⇒ Marriage Preparation courses – online, small groups.
- ⇒ Counselling for couples and individuals experiencing difficulties in their relationships, currently online or by phone.
- ⇒ A Relationship and Sexuality Programme for schools.

The week of February 7-14th, culminating on St Valentine's Day, has been designated as International Marriage Week 2024. International Marriage Day will be celebrated worldwide on Sunday February 12th.

To celebrate International Marriage Week, all sacramentally married and engaged couples who would like to explore and deepen their relationship are invited to participate in a zoom meeting on any of three Tuesdays leading up to St. Valentine's Day from 8.00-9.00pm:

Tuesday Jan. 30th Love – what's it all about?
Tuesday Feb. 6th Prayer and living faith as spouses
Tuesday Feb. 13th Knowing each other



The Zoom details for attending any of the three sessions are as follows:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88227705620?pwd=bVBNdG11M0JPSWJaYVQ5eXdCcXBxQT09>
 Meeting ID: 882 2770 5620 Passcode: 1402

This initiative is facilitated by Teams (Eglise Notre-Dame) Ireland.

VOLUNTEER FOR MINISTRY

You can still volunteer to join a particular ministry or group listed below. Information flyers on tables at the back of the church indicate what ministries are available in our parish.

Contact the parish office if you'd like to get involved or drop us a line at brackenstownparish@gmail.com

MINISTRIES IN ST CRONAN'S CHURCH	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Baptism
<input type="checkbox"/>	Eucharist
<input type="checkbox"/>	Minister of the Word
<input type="checkbox"/>	Parish Pastoral Council
<input type="checkbox"/>	Youth Choir
<input type="checkbox"/>	Children's Choir
<input type="checkbox"/>	Organist/Choir
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adult Choir
<input type="checkbox"/>	Funeral Ministry
<input type="checkbox"/>	First Communion Prep
<input type="checkbox"/>	Confirmation Prep
<input type="checkbox"/>	Finance Committee
<input type="checkbox"/>	Counters
<input type="checkbox"/>	Liturgy Group
<input type="checkbox"/>	Parish Centre Management Committee
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hospitality Group
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adoration Group
<input type="checkbox"/>	Scripture Group
<input type="checkbox"/>	Scaritans
<input type="checkbox"/>	Altar Servers
<input type="checkbox"/>	Care of Creation/Laudato Si
<input type="checkbox"/>	Family Mass Group

SUNDAY MASSES: (Sat Vigil) 6pm; 9am; 11am & 5pm

WEEKDAY MASSES: MONDAY to SATURDAY 10:00am

CONFESSIONS: SATURDAY 10:45am to 11:30am in the Sacristy

ADORATION: MON, TUES, THURS & SAT: 10:30AM—11:30AM

WEDNESDAY: 6pm - 9pm

FRIDAY: 3pm—6pm

All our ceremonies are broadcast online at www.brackenstown-parish.com

A preparation Mass for First Reconciliation and First Communion will take place this Saturday 3rd February at 6.00pm and Sunday 4th February at 5.00pm.

Scripture study will not meet this Monday 5th February, since it is a public holiday in honour of St. Brigid. Our next Scripture study class will be on Monday 12th February.

A meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council will take place at 7.30pm on Wednesday 7th February in the Parish Centre.

Baptisms will take place next Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th February at 12 noon. Please note that baptisms will not take place during the season of Lent which commences on Ash Wednesday, 14th February. The next celebration of baptism will be on Easter Sunday.

Revised Procedures for the Sunday Mass Collections come into effect this weekend. The (red and blue) collection pouches will be placed on the hooks at the end of each pew on either side of the centre aisle **only**. Parishioners seated on either side of the centre aisle are asked to pass first the red and then the blue pouches sideways along each pew, across the two intermediate aisles and towards the wall on either side of the church. The pouches are then placed in the large wicker baskets at each Confession box. The baskets containing the pouches should be brought into the sacristy at the conclusion of Mass. We appreciate the cooperation of parishioners and visitors with these procedures.

Archbishop Dermot Farrell will lead the **Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock on Saturday, April 27**. Parishes/Parish Partnerships are encouraged to book buses. We are glad to say that the Choir of Many Voices from throughout the Archdiocese will be back this year. As in previous years, parishes should plan to arrive in Knock for 11.45am. If you would like to take part in the choir or have any other queries, please email knockpilgrimage@dublindiocese.ie

The first Friday in Lent, February 16, is a day of prayer for survivors of abuse.

We have assembled a number of items of clothing which have been left behind in the church by parishioners or visitors in recent weeks. These include hats, scarves, gloves, a brooch and even a pair of spectacles and a case. If these are not reclaimed in the coming week, they will be donated to a local charity shop.

The **Office of Mission & Ministry** invites us to explore the **Just Lent** Resource in conjunction with the emphasis at the moment, in parishes and partnerships of parishes, on the Social Justice quadrant of the **Building Hope Framework** for Renewal. The Just Lent Resource can be used for individual reflection, as a parish leaflet and for small group reflection. Each week there is a prayer and a connection with the Sunday scriptures, with a short reflection. This is followed by questions for reflection following the method of see, discern and act. **The resource can be found on the Mission & Ministry website**

A Sip of Support RETREAT

- DATE: Saturday 10 February 2024
- TIME: 10:00— 17:00
- LOCATION: White Sands Hotel, Portmarnock
- COST: €50.00 (this includes Tea/Coffee & a light sandwich lunch)

A GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP RETREAT
On the day we will have speakers, some group discussions, meditation and more!
 Tickets must be purchased in advance:
 Payments by Revolut: [revolut.me/sharon4v9](https://www.revolut.me/sharon4v9)
 Text: 0879858837 (to confirm payment)

Reference your full name in the payment
 Cash: You can purchase tickets at one of our weekly meetings

If you have any queries or dietary requirements, please contact our Instagram Page; Facebook Page or Email: haveaispords@gmail.com





SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS

Recently Deceased
 Caroline Conroy
 Marie Ryan
 Maria Cruz Echarri
 Sheila Riley
 Tony McKenna

Month's Mind
 Sally Piper

Anniversaries
 Jim Long (1A)
 Fr Liam Pentony (1A)
 Philip Hickey (3A)
 Bernard McGlynn
 Patrick & Agnes Kealy
 John Kealy & Dcsd Family Members
 John & Gretta Millington
 Sr Pat Hughes

10 AM MASSES THIS WEEK

Mon	Liam McDonnell (RD)
Tues	Brendan O'Reilly (BR) Marian Movement for Priests
Wed	Angela & Tom Dormer (A)
Thur	Special Intention Fr Liam Pentony (1A)
Fri	Thanksgiving Mass for Our Lady of Lourdes
Sat	Mark Farrell (Rem)

BUDDHIST TEMPLE VISIT

A group from the parish are hoping to visit the Buddhist Temple in Temple Bar on Saturday 09th March. If you are interested please be at the gates of Trinity College on or before 1.45 p.m. on that day.

ORGANISED BY MARY SCANLON



Bethany Bereavement Support Group

offer a free and confidential telephone support to any bereaved parishioners who wish to avail of it

Please phone Brid - 086 6006397
 Sunday 4th February to Saturday 10th February. Please phone after 6pm.
"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted"

CO PARISH PRIEST
 Fr. Richard Sheehy
 087 2412459
richarddesheehy@gmail.com

PARISH CHAPLAIN
 Fr. Joseph Hao P.C.
 01 8401188
brackenstownparish@gmail.com

PERMANENT DEACON
 Declan Colgan
 01 8401188
brackenstownparish@gmail.com

PARISH SECRETARY
 Louise Donnelly
 Mon to Fri. 9:30am - 1:00pm
 01 8401188
brackenstownparish@gmail.com

PARISH OFFICE HOURS
 Monday - Friday
 9:30am - 1:00pm

Registered Charity Number 20016166

Partnership Working Together

River Valley plans a weekly prayer/reflection on the first Thursday of each month from February to June. The focus will change from week to week in keeping with the Liturgical season.

Swords St Colmcille's Parish Book Club for Lent will read "Finding God in a Leaf" by Fr Brian Grogan, with an introduction on **Tuesday 13th February @ 2.00pm**. It will take place over 5 weeks, on Tuesday afternoons in the Parochial House, Seatown Road. There will be an additional session on **Tuesday 12th March at 7.00pm** for anyone who would like to read and discuss the book but can't attend the afternoon sessions.

Brackenstown will hold a Taizé prayer service on each of the Fridays in Lent, beginning on Friday 16th February at 7.30pm.

I am Mark, is a Lenten initiative of the partnership of parishes and is a dramatic presentation of St. Mark's Gospel by Stefan Smart, will take place in our church on Wednesday 28th February at 7:30pm. Tickets can be booked online on our website <https://www.brackenstown-parish.com/iammark>

Religious Goods & Literature

Suitable gifts for families during these changing times. Books including **Blessed Carlo Acutis 5 steps to being a saint**, The Order of Mass Congregational Cards, Candles, Statues, Children's books, Bibles etc. all available in main porch after Saturday evening & Sunday morning Masses.

GROTTO ROSARY SUNDAY 11TH FEBRUARY FEAST OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES

Volunteers required to recite the rosary every hour commencing 10am—9pm. Please sign roster back of Church or contact a member of Legion of Mary.

